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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORTTOPIC 1. Military Technical Academy in Brno2. Military Installations in Brno

615960

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 8 February 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to 24 August 1953, the Vojenska Technicka Akademie (Military Technical Academy) (VTA) in Brno (P 50/N 40), including the academy headquarters, which was subordinate directly to the Ministry of National Defense, was located on the east side of ul. Leninova. The academy had the postal address [redacted] and in military 25X1 correspondence, was addressed [redacted] and, in civilian correspondence [redacted]
2. The academy was organized into the headquarters with several sections, six schools and one instruction regiment. VTA commander was Lieutenant General Bohumil Lomsky, an able officer of Jewish origin, who had graduated from a Moscow academy. His deputy was Lieutenant General Trejbal, (fnu). Scientific deputy commander was Major General Professor Dr. ing. Frantisek Perna, a well-known expert in coal chemistry, who had been taken over from the former Institute of Technology and whose deputy 25X1 was Colonel Shanelac (fnu). A Soviet colonel was liaison officer. His adjutant was Czech Lieutenant Fricky (fnu). Sections of the academy headquarters included a personnel section, the political section under Lieutenant Colonel Dvorak (fnu), who was zastupce kaceinika pro vaci politicke (deputy political commander) (ZNP); a finance section; an administrative section; an instruction section under Colonel Zuzka (fnu); a scientific research section; a technical section in charge of technical equipment and motor vehicles; a real estate section, and a general headquarters section, which also issued the order of the day. The scientific research section was headed by Major Dr. Jaroslav Goll, who held the doctor's degree of natural science and joined the army in 1951. His predecessor was Colonel Chaloupka (fnu), who was a poor scientist. The staff of the research section included Lieutenant Colonel Otto Horak, Major Svernik (fnu), Captain Tech Kupal (fnu), and Colonel Getz (fnu), who was assigned administrative missions, four translators, two correctors, and three women. The research section collected patents, evaluated the technical literature of foreign countries and published the periodical "Sbornik VTA" for VTA personnel. In the summer of 1953, it was planned to distribute the "Sbornik" to Czech Army units. The section had manuscripts of translations printed at the post printing office.
3. The academy schools whose heads were required to have attended a training school in the USSR, included an artillery school, a tank school an aeronautical school, an engineer school, a signal communication school, a chemical warfare school and a general school called Takticky Operacni Cyklus (cycle for tactics and operations) (TOC) and

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chairs for languages, mathematics, and general science. Each school was organized into three sections called odbor. The Odbor Velitelstky (OV) section trained regular officers less than 35 years old, who ranked from junior lieutenant up to and including captain. The Odbor Vojensko-Frumyslny section (Military Industrial Section) (OVP) instructed trainees who could also join the armament industry. The Odbor Velitelstko Technicky (Military Technical Section) (OVT) section trained technical officer candidates. The commanders of the schools ranked as regimental commanders and were responsible for military training. The commanders of sections ranked as company commanders and had to care for the trainees. Each school had several chairs occupied by a commander and assigned officer professor. The tank school under Colonel Antonin Matl was in close contact with a tank unit stationed at Vyskov (P 50/N 71). Officers of the school included Captain Mendl (fnu), Jewish, political officer; Colonel Soucek (fnu), scientific deputy commander, formerly professor at the Institute of Technology; Lieutenant Colonel Krska (fnu), who prepared instruction schedules; and Captain Sembera (fnu), adjutant. The school had three chairs including chair 28 for armored warfare tactics under Lieutenant Colonel Benes (fnu), whose aid was Captain Tech Kolibelnik (fnu); Chair 29 for armored engineering under Colonel Tech Hlavacek (fnu); and chair 30 for military technical affairs of the armored command. The engineer school was commanded by Colonel Belohoubek (fnu). Officers assigned to the signal communication school included Major Tech Svec (fnu), and Captain Tech Drab (fnu). The artillery school included about 20 instruction officers.

4. The VTA headquarters with sections was in a new five-story building, more than 100 meters long, with two side wings to the rear, which was located on the east side of Leninova and was bounded by Hrnecirska to the north and Zahradnikova to the south. It was still called Soudni Budova (court building) by the population. The main entrance was on Leninova and the entrance for motor vehicles was on Hrnecirska. The northern half of the building was occupied by the air school. Other elements of this school and the library were in the former building of the school of law of Masaryk University on the north side of ul. Hrnecirska, whose entrance was on ul. Veveri. The buildings of the former Benes Institute of Technology on the west side of ul. Veveri, which were bounded by Resslova to the north and Rybkova to the south, housed the signal and engineer school as well as offices, classrooms, workshops, storage rooms and drawing rooms. The buildings of the chemical laboratories of the former Benes Institute on the west were occupied by the chemical warfare school. The tank school was in buildings on both sides of ul. Bedricha Macku, which also housed a workshop and an exhibition of a tank component. A tank was in the yard of these buildings. In the spring of 1953, the building of the former commercial school on the west side of ul. Leninova, which was bounded by Nerudova to the north and Kotlarska to the south, was taken over by the VTA. Trainees and officers were billeted at various sites in the post area.
5. The first classes of trainees consisted of students of the former Benes Institute of Technology which was still responsible for construction engineering. Classes included highschool graduates and graduates of the workers' continuation school, with rather poor education. All applicants had to pass an entrance examination, whose subjects were sociology (Marxism, Leninism, etc.), Czech and Russian. Examinations were held prior to the end of every term. After the final examination, the trainees were given the title of technical officers. Soldiers were discharged as lieutenants, senior lieutenants, or captains depending on their qualifications. Trainees and officers wore khaki uniforms. Air force trainees wore blue uniforms. All wore silver-bordered black epaulets with one silver chevron pointing inwards, five pointed star emblems with a toothed wheel and, the letters VTA in the middle for insignia and up to four red service chevrons, about 5 cm long and 1 cm wide on the lower arms. Officers wore silver epaulets or, if they belonged to a branch of service, their service color, but VTA insignia. Generals wore stars arranged in a straight line. Former senior captains who had served for several years were promoted to the rank

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of major, and younger officers formerly holding the rank of major ranked as captain. Trainees received double the pay of soldiers with corresponding rank. The officers' pay could not be determined. Two weeks leave during which training ground or armament plants were visited were granted after every term.

6. The VTA instruction regiment was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Medilek (fnu), and was quartered in the cantonment on Kravi Hora (cow hill). It had the postal address of the VTA and used the VTA code designation in official correspondence. Deputy commander was Lieutenant Colonel Andelsky (fnu). The regiment was organized into one headquarters company, one tank company, one motorized battery, one signal company, one engineer company, and one chemical warfare company. The headquarters company, which numbered 120 men, was commanded by Major Gregor (fnu). The motorized battery, which numbered about 30 men, was equipped with four guns of about 100 mm. The tank company had five T 34 tanks. Only trained EM were reassigned to the school regiment.

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7. [redacted] the translators' group of the scientific research section translated publications from Russian, English, Polish and Spanish. About 80 percent of the texts were Russian publications and about 15 percent were English publications. Books or publications translated included:
- a pamphlet of about 400 pages on wostanowljenije tankow (Tank repair) by Colonel Yefremov (fnu) published by the Moscow Military Academy; an 80 page manual on the improvement of passive air defense in villages, published by the Enginner Academy in Moscow, and a manual on the organization and improvement of air warning. This manual mentioned three types of aircraft warning, namely, warning in the border area, at important centers, and at ordinary warning stations. It provided that warning in the border area focus on main approaches; the individual stations be equipped with observation, monitoring or radar equipment and in the event of approach, the observing stations warn the neighboring stations, nearest air defense unit, airfield, military unit or command agency, and industrial center and that the reporting stations be located in special above-ground or underground quarters equipped with observation posts. It also demanded that the reporting organization near important centers be arranged around the installation to be protected in a circle of 150 to 200 km in diameter, and ordinary stations be equipped with monitoring devices only or employ visual observation. Also translated were a lithographed manual of about 12 pages on training of headquarters, which contained directives for the practical and theoretical training of officers serving with headquarters up to division level, and prescribed that training of officers of battalion headquarters up to and including division headquarters be directed by the respective superior commander; a manual of about 60 pages on armored combat in towns; a manual of about 16 pages on tanks and SP guns in defensive combat; a lithographed manual of about 20 pages on artillery preparation of attack; a manual of about 30 pages, on the application of chemical warfare agents in combat published in 1948; a manual of about 40 pages on river-crossing; and a lithographed manual of 12 pages on means of signal communication.

All manuals were Soviet publications. During the period of his activity at the VTA, source noted no work connected with atomic weapons and heard of no atomic research activity.¹

8. Prior to August 1953, military installations in the Brno post area included the former Artillery Barracks on the east side of Eisenhowerova which quartered a horse-drawn artillery unit; the cantonment in the Pisarsky Borough on the western bank of the Svratka River which was occupied by an engineer unit; the komendatura (posadkova sprava) on the east side of ul. Veveri in the block bounded by Pekarenska to the south and Solkolska to the north, which also housed a clothing depot; the military district headquarters (obvodni vojenski velitelstvi) at the intersection of Luzanecka and tr. Kapitana Jarose, formerly Legionaru, and the Army Building (posadkovy) on the east side of Husova tr.²

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1. Comment. The information confirms the Military Technical Academy under Lieutenant General Lomsky prior to August 1953. 25X1
2. Comment. Previous information in 1951 indicated that the barracks installation of the former 6th Czech Arty Regt quartered an artillery unit and the Pisarski cantonment quartered an engineer battalion. 25X1

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